Induction of BrahMos

739. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the supersonic cruise missile BrahMos has been inducted into our defence forces;

(b) whether this joint project with Russia is spearheading and would open up considerable export potential in the global market; and

(c) the time-frame within which India will achieve self-sufficiency in this cruise missile field?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) Yes, Sir. After a series of successful flight trials, the missile has proved its accurate performance against ship and land targets with devastating destruction capability. Indian Navy and Army have accepted the BrahMos system and placed orders for production of the systems. The induction process on naval ships is progressing and will start for the Army in 2007.

(b) BrahMos missile system being the best in the class has tremendous market potential in international arena. There are many countries showing considerable interest in the product. Both the Indian and Russian Government will take joint decision on the countries whom the missile will be exported.

(c) BrahMos, being a joint venture, the production is being shared by the consortium of industries from India and Russia. The Indian Armed Forces will have the superior fire power and the best cruise missile in the world, by inducting BrahMos.

Terrorist attacks on family members of defence/police personnel in J&K

740. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many members of the families of the personnel of Jammu and Kashmir Police, CRPF, BSF and Army have been attacked by the terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir during the last two years;

(b) whether there have been a large number of complaints of the villagers from Kashmir Valley, that they are forced to shelter the terrorists and give them food at the gun point; and

(c) whether the Ministry is preparing any separate plan to protect the families of CRPF, BSF, Army and other security personnel in Jammu and Kashmir from terrorist attacks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) As reported by the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, during 1.1.2005 to 25.11.2006, 19 incidents of terrorist attacks on the families of the security personnel, mostly residing in far-flung areas, took place in the State.

(b) This has been the tactics of terrorists especially in the rural areas to make forced entry into residential houses during the night and demand food and shelter. Security Forces after getting information about presence of terrorist groups promptly cordon off the area and take action.

(c) No, Sir. However, advisories have been issued on the basis of threat assessment received from intelligence agencies.

Aircraft crashes

741. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:
SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India lost its 5th Jet this year on 28th September, 2006 when a MiG-29 crashed into a paddy field near Ambala; if so, whether the mandatory inquiry into the mishap has been conducted, if so, the findings thereof and the action taken thereon;

(b) the details of aircraft accidents during the current year, indicating the loss of human life and property in these accidents; and

(c) the details of steps taken to prevent such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) The Indian Air Force lost its fifth aircraft during the current year on 28th September, 2006. In this accident one MiG-29 crashed near Ambala. After any such accident, a court of inquiry is ordered and based on the outcome of the inquiry, remedial actions are undertaken.

(b) The details of aircraft accidents in the Indian Air Force (IAF) during